BCPharmaCare Newsletter *August 15, 2008 Edition 08-008*

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CORRECT QUANTITIES FOR CLAIMS—UPDATE

A detailed list of the correct quantities to use when submitting claims is available on the PharmaCare website (www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharme).

The list includes many commonly prescribed injectable medications and other products. A recent addition to the list was the correct claims quantity for dornase alfa (Pulmozyme®). The correct quantity for the product—packaged as 1 mg/mL ampoules—is number of millilitres.

Is there a specific product you would like to see added to this list? Send your request to pharma@gov.bc.ca.

PHARMACY QUESTIONS

If a patient leaves B.C. to reside elsewhere can a pharmacy mail a prescription to them?

There is nothing to prevent a pharmacy from mailing a prescription to an out-of-province client, but PharmaCare coverage ends the day a person leaves B.C. to live elsewhere.

If the person does not notify PharmaCare of their move and continues to have prescriptions filled, the ministry can recover assistance provided after the date of their departure.

**The use of PharmaNet is not intended as a substitute for professional judgment.
Information on PharmaNet is not exhaustive and cannot be relied upon as complete.
The absence of a warning about a drug or drug combination is not an indication that the drug or drug combination is safe, appropriate or effective in any given patient.
Health care professionals should confirm information obtained from PharmaNet, and ensure no additional relevant information exists, before making patient care decisions.**

BRITISH COLUMBIA

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SPECIAL SERVICES FEES

The number of Special Services fees that PharmaCare paid over the past twelve months are:

Jul 2008	2,905	Jan 2008	2,393
Jun 2008	2,689	Dec 2007	3,623
May 2008	2,696	Nov 2007	3,782
Apr 2008	2,656	Oct 2007	3,747
Mar 2008	2,242	Sep 2007	3,091
Feb 2008	2,241	Aug 2007	3,110

LOW COST ALTERNATIVE/ REFERENCE DRUG PROGRAM— CORRECTIONS TO THE BOOKLET

We will continue to publish corrections to the LCA/RDP Booklet on our website at www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharme/lca/lcabooklets.html.

Corrections will be incorporated into the booklet itself as quickly as possible.

Please check the website periodically for updated information.

LCA/RDP BOOKLET—CHANGES

New Drugs Categorized to LCA and/or RDP

The following newly-approved benefits have been added to existing LCA/RDP categories as eligible benefits for Plans B, C, F, Fair PharmaCare, and, if applicable, Plan G. (For the Plan G formulary, please visit the Special Authority Information page on the PharmaCare website at www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharme.)

DIN	DRUG NAME	RDP	LCA STATUS	SPECIAL AUTHORITY ONLY
2296446	SANDOZ OMEPRAZOLE 20 mg capsule		P*	Y
2294702	PMS-NAPROXEN EC 375 mg tablet	Y	P	
2294710	PMS-NAPROXEN EC 500 mg tablet	Y	P	
2294559	PMS-PROPAFENONE 150 mg tablet		P	
2294575	PMS-PROPAFENONE 300 mg tablet		P	
2302055	GEN-METOPROLOL (TYPE L) 25 mg tablet		F	
2302632	PMS-BISOPROLOL 5 mg tablet		P	
2302640	PMS-BISOPROLOL 10 mg tablet		P	
2304686	MINT-CITALOPRAM 20 mg tablet		P	
2304694	MINT-CITALOPRAM 40 mg tablet		P	
2310317	SANDOZ VENLAFAXINE XR 37.5 mg tablet		P	
2310325	SANDOZ VENLAFAXINE XR 75 mg tablet		P	
2310333	SANDOZ VENLAFAXINE XR 150 mg tablet		P	
2303728	RAN-CIPROFLOX 250 mg tablet		F	
2303736	RAN-CIPROFLOX 500 mg tablet		P	
2303744	RAN-CIPROFLOX 750 mg tablet		F	
2307898	NOVO-OXYCODONE ACET 5mg/325mg tablet		P	
2302918	NOVO-ATENOLTHALIDONE 50/25mg tablet		P	
2302926	NOVO-ATENOLTHALIDONE 100/25mg tablet		P	
2303396	SANDOZ METOPROLOL SR 100 mg tablet		P	
2303418	SANDOZ METOPROLOL SR 200 mg tablet		P	

F – Fully covered P – Partially covered P* – Drug is a partial benefit if Special Authority is in place when the prescription is filled.

New LCA Categories

The following drugs (including both existing and new PharmaCare benefits) will be included as new LCA Categories on PharmaNet, effective **September 19, 2008**.

NEW CATEGORY (CHEMICAL NAME)	DIN	BRAND NAME	LCA STATUS	PRICE
ONDANSETRON SOLUTION 4MG/5ML	2291967	APO-ONDANSETRON	F*	
	2229639	ZOFRAN	P*	1.5168
OMEPRAZOLE TAB/CAP 10MG	2119579	LOSEC	F*	
	2230737	LOSEC	P*	0.9081
	2296438	SANDOZ OMEPRAZOLE	P*	0.9081
MODAFINIL TAB 100MG	2285398	APO-MODAFINIL	F*	
	2239665	ALERTEC	P*	0.9646
ETIDRONATE DISODIUM/CALCIUM 400MG/500MG	2263866	CO-ETIDROCAL	F	
	2247323	GEN-ETI-CAL CAREPAC	F	
	2176017	DIDROCAL	P	0.3458
TAMSULOSIN TAB/CAP 0.4MG	2281392	NOVO-TAMSULOSIN	F	
	2294265	RATIO-TAMSULOSIN	F	
	2295121	SANDOZ TAMSULOSIN	F	
	2294885	RAN-TAMSULOSIN	F	
	2270102	FLOMAX CR	P	0.6227

F – Fully covered
P – Partially covered
F* -- Drug is a full benefit if Special Authority is in place when the prescription is filled.
P* – Drug is a partial benefit if Special Authority is in place when the prescription is filled.

BENEFITS

The following new products are now eligible PharmaCare benefits for Plans B, C, F, Fair PharmaCare and, if indicated below, Plan G and/or Plan P.

DIN	DRUG NAME	PLAN G	PLAN P
2293501	ADVICOR® (NIACIN EXTENDED RELEASE and LOVASTATIN) 1000 mg/40 mg tablet	N	N
2301911	OSTO-D2 (ERGOCALCIFEROL) 50,000 I.U. capsule	N	N
2300184	SEROQUEL XR® (QUETIAPINE FUMARATE) 50 mg tablet	Y	N
2300192	SEROQUEL XR® (QUETIAPINE FUMARATE) 200 mg tablet	Y	N
2300206	SEROQUEL XR® (QUETIAPINE FUMARATE) 300 mg tablet	Y	N
2300214	SEROQUEL XR® (QUETIAPINE FUMARATE) 400 mg tablet	Y	N
2256738	TIAZAC® XC (DILTIAZEM HYDROCHLORIDE) 120 mg tablet	N	Y
2256746	TIAZAC® XC (DILTIAZEM HYDROCHLORIDE) 180 mg tablet	N	Y
2256754	TIAZAC® XC (DILTIAZEM HYDROCHLORIDE) 240 mg tablet	N	Y
2256762	TIAZAC® XC (DILTIAZEM HYDROCHLORIDE) 300 mg tablet	N	Y
2256770	TIAZAC® XC (DILTIAZEM HYDROCHLORIDE) 360 mg tablet	N	Y

Blood Glucose Monitoring Strip Benefits

The following blood glucose monitoring strips are now eligible PharmaCare benefits for patients on Plan C, F, and Fair PharmaCare who have a valid Certificate of Training in Blood glucose monitoring.

DIN / PIN	DRUG NAME
44123040	FREESTYLE LITE blood glucose test strips

LIMITED COVERAGE PROGRAM

The following products are eligible benefits under the Limited Coverage Program—by Special Authority only—for Plans B, C, F and Fair PharmaCare. For the Special Authority criteria, please visit the Special Authority Information page on the PharmaCare website at www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharme.)

Note: Some Limited Coverage drugs may be subject to the rules of the Low Cost Alternative or Reference Drug Program.

DIN	DRUG NAME
765996	DIAMICRON® (GLICLAZIDE) 80 mg tablet—A manufacturer request to modify the eligibility criteria has been reviewed and a decision has been made to retain the existing Special Authority criteria.
2297841	HYZAAR® (LOSARTAN and HYDROCHLOROTHIAZIDE) 100 mg/12.5 mg tablet

NON-BENEFITS

The following products have been reviewed and will not be added as benefits under PharmaCare.

DIN	DRUG NAME
2298953	APO-CICLOPIROX 8% topical solution
2303116	PMS-OLANZAPINE 2.5 mg tablet*
2303159	PMS-OLANZAPINE 5 mg tablet*
2303167	PMS-OLANZAPINE 7.5 mg tablet*
2303175	PMS-OLANZAPINE 10 mg tablet*
2303183	PMS-OLANZAPINE 15 mg tablet*
2276712	NOVO-OLANZAPINE 2.5 mg tablet*
2276720	NOVO-OLANZAPINE 5 mg tablet*
2276739	NOVO-OLANZAPINE 7.5 mg tablet*
2276747	NOVO-OLANZAPINE 10 mg tablet*
2276755	NOVO-OLANZAPINE 15 mg tablet*
2301407	CO-CABERGOLINE 0.5 mg tablet
2257270	ZYMAR™ (GATIFLOXACIN) 0.3 % ophthalmic solution

* In December 2007, Pharmaceutical Services Division issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the supply of olanzapine tablets to PharmaCare beneficiaries. The RFP was conveyed to vendors licensed to market olanzapine tablets in Canada at that time.

On the terms set out in the RFP, Pharmaceutical Services has entered into a contract with Eli Lilly Canada Inc. for the supply of olanzapine 2.5 mg, 5 mg, 7.5 mg, 10 mg and 15 mg tablets. Accordingly, PharmaCare will not be including PMS-Olanzapine or Novo-Olanzapine as benefits under the PharmaCare Program at this time, except in individual cases of documented intolerance to the Eli Lilly product. In such cases, the patient's physician can submit a Special Authority request for coverage of an alternative product.

To address concerns regarding supply disruption and/or inventory levels, Pharmaceutical Services will provide stakeholders with reasonable advance notice of any planned change in coverage for olanzapine tablets.